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DONE AT THE HERALD

THE SEED.

"Only a little seed," we say— A tiny thing Floating along its airy way On sliken wing.

And yet that little tufted ball So frall to see Hides safely from the sight of all

A mystery of life and bloom
Is there concealed—
An unborn beauty and perfume
To be revealed.

Within that germ so small and brown
Are joys of May.
When melody, like rain, drips down
O'er each glad day.

A hundred beauties yet unborn Are in its sheath That wait to charm the skies of morn With perfumed breath. Within a seed that airily
Floats to and fro
Perhaps may be a giant tree
In embryo.

Urged onward by the restless wind That little seed

A resting place at last shall find
In wood or mead.

Some day, ah, what a mystery Shall greet the sight— A tall and graceful forest tree Proud in its might.

Can it be that so small a thing

The humblest things in nature's land Offtimes contain
What seers have tried to understand,
But all in vain.

The florets of one meadow flower
The power may hold
To sow a field in idle hour
With summer's gold. A sweet wild rosebud by the stream Some meaning wears As great, perhaps, as brightly gleam From starry spheres.

Upon those worlds we look with awe, And fall to heed As great a power as stellar law Lies in a seed.

In nature, things both high and low,

The oak or reed,

Must in a meek obelsance bow
Unto the seed—

O wondrous mystery the cause To human mind, Producing by unchanging laws Its own in kind. Plant roses and to stems will cling

A crimson glow; Plant lilies and to life will spring A gleam like snow. Nature's most potent agency-

A secret deep— Is latent life that waits to be Aroused from sleep— That waits the kindly touch of sun
And drip of rain.
And lo! the miracle begun
Speaks not in vain.

In nature, things both high and low— The oak or reed— Must in a meek obelsance bow Unto the seed. -Alice Jean Cleator, in Ohio Farmer.

An Incognito.

W E who live in the High Row awoke had been taken out of the windows of No. 10 in the row. The house, whose fu-ture tenancy had for some time been the subject of our hopes and fears, was let Next door to H. E. Wall's Hard- at last, and our fate, in the matter of ibors, decided for good or ill.

ner, lying at the back of a large seaside town, out of the reach of the yearly influx of noise and trippers. We took no little credit to ourselves for our isolation, and would have blushed to have been at any time discovered among the crowd parading the sea front. Perhaps, indeed, it was the desire to ignore the aspect of the town as a pleasure resort that formed the basis of sympathy on which our little society was founded. Of this society it was old Mrs. Delane, two county families, and who took daily airings in a carriage with yellow wheels, whom we looked up to as our head, and to whom were referred all We certainly were, take us all in all, a highly respectable corner, and might unusually pretty selection of be forgiven in the absence of worthy objects of comparison in mistaking ourit to be wondered at that we were filled | handsome feather had long been innowith alarm whenever there was a pros- cent of curl, grew white and pinched, pect of a house changing hands, although hitherto the character of the Row had not suffered from any such change. The dingy old corner made little appeal to the average house hunter. A susceptibility to the charm underlying the dinginess, enough to make step. The girl's appearance in the street it appear a desirable place of residence, had in most instances proved symptomatic, and in the general run of newcomers we had found new friends. Yet a pale face flitting past an upper win-we knew that the luck must one day dow, we might have believed she had we knew that the luck must one day turn, and the present occasion filled more than one of us with vague fore-No. 10 had been "To let, furnished,"

so we could not hope for an introduc-tion to the newcomers through the customary vanguard of household goods. There was nothing for it but to possess our souls in patience, and to keep a lookout for their arrival in the flesh. We were taking tea at Mrs. Delane's, and discussing somewhat dolefully the probabilities of the new tenancy, when general verdiet? So I just did nothing. the sound of a vehicle driving into the Row sent us all to the window with a rush. Yes, there they were! A fly, bearing a small quantity of luggage, drew up before the door of No. 10. A young man in a tourist suit jumped out, and was followed up the steps by a girl | at No. 10 on the previous day, and redressed rather too elaborately to be in accordance with High Row notions of That girl was seriously ill-dying, pergenteel elegance. The man gave a pull at the bell, and no response immediately forthcoming, he and his companion each lifted the handle of the hat and cloak. At that moment the double knocker and roused the echoes with a vigorous rat-tat. The effort on the girl's part loosened the clumsy street. What I saw there kept me knot of hair gathered beneath the rooted to the spot. A great yellow "picture" hat, and a great plait, inartistically stuck with hairpins, uncoiled itself to the length of her waist. We

tion that accompanied her unskillful jumped down and gave a knock the attempt at readjustment, and the brought the rest of the Row to its par- How He Managed to Help His Cuban lane returned to the tea table drawing mean? Had some dame of high estate in her lips and shaking her head, and we read in the combined action what play the part of Lady Bountiful? Then would be the verdict of the Row,

his or her mite of evidence. One morn- the threshold of the room where I ing, when the little maid of all work had gone out of the house in garments stood I saw the poor little white figure suggestive of a day's holiday, one of us spring up on her couch, eyes wide, pale had seen Mrs. de Villiers (the incredible | lips parted as though she beheld a high-flown name they gave out as their vision; then fall back on the instant own) dress herself up in the servant's among her pillows, hiding her face in cap and apron and dab about the room her hands. Another moment, and the with a broom and duster, for all the visitor was by the bedside, bending world like a stage soubrette. Her husband had stood by, laughing uproar- me as a blurred tangle of caresses and iously, and the whole had concluded emotion, in which the men standing on with an affectionate skirmish, in which | the other side of the bed was also in the broom had played an important cluded. Then I turned away, startled part. The pair made daily excursions suddenly into propriety by the conto the shops, she carrying on her arm | sciousness of tears running down my a preposterous market basket, itself an face.

its.. But now the charm was broken. and threw halfpence to the man with the cornet. Indeed, the dark suspicion rested upon them of having inflicted the squeaking vulgarity of a Punch and Judy show upon the peace of High Row

signs of appreciation. Calling on them had from the first Calling on them had from the first been out of the question. Now when we came across them in the row, or street. the most unapproachable look, where | racy. For, although we were neverable by we hoped they would gather the ex- to learn the whole of the story, the fact tent of their offense, and be induced, of the intimate connection of the couple perhaps, to mend their ways.

ter of the row, that we were all of us | mention was rarely made of them in shocked at Mrs. Delane, who, when little Mrs. de Villiers stopped one morn-the means of dispelling our filusions as shocked at Mrs. Delane, who, when liting in front of her veranda to say pret- to the unerring character of our inty words to the parrot sunning itself stincts and perceptions, and the subject there, darted out red and wrathful and remained a painful one. bore the cage back with her through the parlor window, as though she feared contamination for the bird. But while | friend in London, and we had walked we watching grew red and white in the one afternoon to the park to watch the girl's behalf, she resumed her saunter- carriages returning from the drawing ing walk with a little smiling twist of room. She was in one of them, stately one morning to find that the bills the mouth that expressed more of but radiant, in nodding feathers and

that we, the original inhabitants, formed as important an element in the The Row was an old-fashioned cor- at the corner of the rusty clump of us, then, and our attitude of hostility. spector's brogan as soon as the latter shrubs that did duty for garden in the and had resented it and been pained by middle of the Row. tinued to stand on their heads, metadifferent to the existence of an audi-ence trying to frown them down into a owed none of their bitterness to the

more conventional attitude. Yet it was strange that they should seem content to be let severely alone, for as far as callers went they might have lived on a desert island; the postman rarely brought them a letter. And at No. 5, who was called on by at least as summer merged into autumn, a change like that affecting the season came over the offending household. The girl's smart toilettes, of which no item was ever renewed, began to look questions of fashion and social ethics. | faded and shabby. She drew the light cloak, designed for summer weather, more closely about her shoulders, but the wind blew cold through the laces and chiffons, and she shivered miserably The little face under the big hat, whose and the eyes had a frightened, wideopen look. The same look was reflected in the face of the man, as he stood for hours together drumming aimlessly on the window pane. Men who looked like duns were seen to frequent the doorgrew an occurrence of increasing rarity, then ceased altogether, and had it not been for a glimpse now and then of been spirited away. It was the man who went to market now, mostly of an evening, and armed always with the offending basket, a melancholy relic of the time when life had seemed a game to be played with appropriate toys.

I would have given something to dare to cross the row and open my arms to those poor, forlorn things. But Mrs. Delane kept lynx-eyed watch. The row as a row had shown no sign of relentand was miserable, trying in vain to keep my eyes and my thoughts from the house over the way.

One day matters approached a crisis. Bessie, my maid, had just informed me that she had seen the doctor call twice main a long time on each occasion. haps. I could keep away no longer, and I jumped up quickly from my seat with the intention of running at once for my clatter of heavy wheels over the cobblestones directed my attention to the ments, driven by a white-wigged coach- his income, anyway? JOB OFFICE, FARMVILLE could see the little stamp of exaspera. The powdered man holding on behind | ity.-N. Y. World. man, had drawn up in front of No. 10.

amused smile of the man watching. lor windows in time to see the most Then the door was opened, and both obvious dowager duchess disappear disappeared into the house. Mrs. De- through the doorway. What could it I remembered that from Bessie's attie The result of further observation could be obtained a capital view of the served only to deepen first impressions. new tenants' first floor front, and The manner and extent of the pair's | caught suddenly by a frenzy of curiosdivergence from High Row notions of ity, blinding me to all sense of decency, genteel living became the favorite sub- I scampered up the stairs and arrived ject for discussion at all the ten parties. at the attic window at the moment Each one of us was eager to contribute | when the strange visitor was crossing

insult to the dignity of the Row.

On hot summer nights, when we sat and stewed respectively in our front the door at No. 10, where its daily apparlors, these people would bring deck pearance in the interval had gone far *hairs on to their doorstep and lounge to compensate the Row for what it had there till bedtime in shameless disha-bille of teagown and smoking jacket. undergone at the hands of the new tenants. The dowager sailed in in her Hitherto the respectable remoteness of usual rustling state, and returned sup-High Row had been appreciated by porting a bundle of shawls, out of hawkers and street minstrels, and they which peeped a familiar, pathetic little had seldom troubled us with their vis- face. The husband followed behind, and the faces of all three shone like sun-Some instinct seemed to urge them shine after rain as they entered the daily in our direction, an instinct justi- coach and clattered out of High Row. fled by the behavior of the newcomers. Neither of the pair gave us so much as who bought shrimps and water cresses, a backward look, but the little maid-ofall-work, superintending the lading of a "fly" with portmanteaus belonging to her master, cried miserably on the

And that was the end of it, and we of by deliberate invitation. They had certainly sat at their window throughout with ourselves and with one another with ourselves and with one another. the performance, exhibiting marked It had been a variation on the theme of Alfred and the Oakes, and we had disour countenances were wont to put on | manent touch with the British aristocwith that august body was established Yet I am glad to say, for the charac- beyond a doubt. But by tacit consent I once saw the girl again, but only for

a moment. I had gone to stay with a we had become aware, and the fact lay perhaps at the root of our hostility, the critical inhabitants are the corporate of the complete of the And so they con- it, while appearing to ignore it! 1 wished she could have known how near phorically speaking, exasperatingly in- I had once been to holding out my hand, fact that it was a noble lady who had just given me the cut direct. For at the moment I could think of nothing but the lost opportunity of human love.—Good Words.

FOLLOWING A PRECEDENT.

The Clever Way in Which a Tavern Keeper Got Even with an Offensive Judge.

We can hardly blame, perhaps, the in a certain court once gained from an opportunity that chance gave him. A judge, traveling on circuit, had before him in a small country town a case in which a tavern keeper was held for the payment on a land transaction of a large amount of money which he had ot agreed definitely to pay. The court declared that, although bis agreement was not on record, it was involved by construction, or implied, in his participation in a business proceeding conected with it.

After judgment had been rendered the court adjourned for dinner, and the judge found that the only eating house in the place was kept by the defendant in the case which he had just decided. He also found that the defendant personally superintended the preparation of the meals, and the food was charged for on the "European plan."

The judge called for two boiled eggs, which, with the other food he ordered, were brought to him done to a turn. He ate them, and at the end of the meal the bill was presented to him. He was astonished to read on it the following items: "Two boiled eggs, 15 cents; two chickens, at 75 cents, \$1.50,"

He called the proprietor and said: "How is this? I have had no chickens; why do you charge me for them?" "Those are constructive chickens, your honor," answered the host.
"What?"

"Why, they are implied in the eggs. you know, your honor," the man per-

The judge began to understand, and said no more. However, when he handed in a five-dollar bill to pay for the dinner he found that the innkeeper had given him his full change, without charging for the "constructive" chickens.-Detroit Free Press.

Jack-How does the bunco man get Tom-By imposing a tax on credulWILY INTERPRETER.

Compatriots to Stay as Dirty as They Liked.

"I've been on sanitary detail in Havana lately," said an army officer who passed through the city the other day to a New Orleans Times-Democrat man, "and had as an assistant a very energetic, capable young volunteer from Virginia. His business was to give house-to-house orders as to sewage, drain cleaning and so on, and, not speaking Spanish, he was provided with a Cuban interpreter. I knew the man's worth, so I was greatly sur-



ON THE TOE OF THE BROGAN.

prised to note that he got very poor results. Somehow or other he seemed unable to enforce his order, and his district was the dirtiest in town. At last I smelled a rat and privately instructed a Spanish-speaking American soldier to loiter along behind the inspector and see what really happened on the "At the first house visited the stench

was enough to kill a polecat, and the drain evidently hadn't been cleaned since the year 1. The Virginian was furious, and sent for the owner. 'Tell this infernal ginger-colored beast, he roared to the interpreter, 'that I say he's a disgrace to hyenas! I've told him three times to clean out those pipes, and if he don't do it to-day I'm going to ram him into the calaboose and lose the key!' 'Yes, sare, senor, captain,' replied the interpreetr, bowing gravely. 'Juan,' he continued, addressing the native in Spanish, 'this young man, as I communicate to you before, is a little touched in the head. He is crazy, like all American pigs, on the sanitation, and he pretends to offense find in your mansion so beautiful. Well, we must humor him. So bow merely, say yes, you will do as he demands, and to me leave the balance.'

"The housekeeper listened to the ingenious suggestion and burst immediately into voluble protests that he would obey the law. 'I tell 'em what you say, senor, retorted the interpreter. Refrigerators, few remarks in Spanish, and the Cuban the head. They had understood | eral somersaults on the toe of the ingrasped the facts. After that district B was a sanitary model for the city."

TIED BY HIS HAIR.

Jersey Fishermen Have a Little Innocent Fun with the Paderewski of Their Party.

Passengers in the smoking-car of a train that was returning from one of the South Jersey fishing resorts a few days ago were highly entertained by a trio of disciples of Izaak Walton, who were feeling only as those men who have had a good day's piscatorial sport and are bringing home a heavy string can feel, says the Philadelphia Record satisfaction which a nonsuited litigant | One of the three was tired out, and, in



HE FELL BACK WITH A HOWL.

spite of the taunts of his companions, he deliberately leaned back in his seat and went to sleep. Then the two practical jokers got together and dtermined upon a plan for fun. The sleeper was generously endowed by nature with a good shock of hair, one tuft of which, on the back of his head, was particularly prominent. His companions cut off a piece of fishing line and silently but firmly tied one end of it to the prominent tuft and the other end to the arm of the seat back of the sleeper The latter dozed peacefully until the train reached Camden. Then his com-panions, who had their tackle and fish in hand, shook him and yelled: "Camden! Hurry up, or we'll miss the boat." He started up in his seat, but fell back with something between a howl and a curse when the cord had gone its limit. A young calf at the end of a rope would have been a tame exhibition as com-pared with the tangled fisherman. While his companions hurriedly made their way to the boat one of the laugh ing onlookers cut him loose with a knife. It has taken the jokers two days to convince their victim that they only Med him up for a little innocent fun.

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